



NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF
**CULTURAL
RESOURCES**
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News Highlights Dec. 21, 2012-Jan. 3, 2013

Charlotte Observer and News & Observer

New cultural resources secretary brings diversity – and controversy – to the job

Susan Kluttz, Pat McCrory's choice to run the state's arts, history and library programs, helps expand the diversity of the governor-elect's cabinet and top staff – into territory not traditionally on the GOP's agenda. As a Democratic politician, she represents a nod toward moderation and bipartisanship in the new Republican administration. Read more [here](#) and [here](#).

News & Observer; WBTV, Winston-Salem Journal, WCNC-TV, etc. (Associated Press story)

Restoration work to begin at crumbling Civil War-era artifact

When visitors approach on foot, the pyramidal structure arising from the Piedmont loam resembles an ancient Maya temple. During the Civil War, hundreds of Lee County residents – both free and slave – toiled at this smelter to supply pig iron for Confederate munitions. Area preservationists are racing to save it from collapse, especially the arched portals that support the stones above. Read more of the original story and view a photo [here](#); read more of the AP version [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#).

Myrtle Beach Sun News, WLOS-TV, Daily Reflector, etc. (AP story)

NC Historic Site Hosts Mayan Stargazing Event

Those interested in learning how the Mayans developed their calendar can meet at a North Carolina historic site for an evening of stargazing. The event will begin at 6 p.m. Friday at Town Creek Indian Mound in Mount Gilead, after the Mayan long count calendar runs out of time, leading some to believe the world will end. Site manager Rich Thompson says stargazers will view many of the celestial waypoints that Maya used to develop their calendar. Read more [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#).

Atlanta Journal Constitution, Seattle Post Intelligencer, etc. (AP story)

Leading the State: North Carolina's Governors exhibit to open Dec. 21

NC museum exhibit looks at governors, spouses

First Gentleman Bob Eaves' tuxedo stands out more among the inaugural gowns than outgoing Gov. Beverly Perdue's black suit does among the men's attire in the new exhibit at the N.C. Museum of History. Both are part of the exhibit "Leading the State: North Carolina's Governors," which highlights changes in the office of governor and the role of first spouses during more than 200 years. As Governor-elect Pat McCrory prepares for his inauguration, the timely exhibit includes "old favorites from the museum collection" plus some artifacts that have never been displayed. Read more and view a photo [here](#); read the AP version from several publications [here](#) and [here](#).

UNC-TV

[“North Carolina Now”](#)

The UNC public TV system broadcast Cultural Resources’ video tributes to the six 2012 North Carolina Award recipients on “North Carolina Now” segments throughout December. View the final two videos [here](#) (Bonnie McElveen Hunter, starting at 08:33) and [here](#) (Thomas Sayre, starting at 10:49).

Beach Carolina magazine and the New Bern Sun Journal

[Emancipation Proclamation anniversary events begin across North Carolina](#)

The N.C. Department of Cultural Resources will present a number of programs throughout 2013 in observance of the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation. President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on Jan. 1, 1863, which declared that “all persons held as slaves” in the rebellious states “are, and henceforward shall be free.” Read more [here](#) about DCR programs across the state; read about the New Bern event [here](#).

Carteret County News Times / carolinacoastonline.com

[Top 10 for 2012 \(item # 10 – “Cultural resources”\)](#)

Carteret County is small in size but big on history and heritage, claiming the most famous ship of the world’s most famous pirate. Excavation of the *Queen Anne’s Revenge*, the flagship scuttled by Blackbeard in Beaufort Inlet, continued in 2012 and received a major boost from Eric and Rita Bigham of Chapel Hill, who donated \$32,500 to complete a matching \$450,000 grant for excavation and for an artifact exhibit at the N.C. Maritime Museum. Read more [here](#).

News & Observer

[Confederate Navy gunboat gets new home in Kinston](#)

The CSS Neuse, a Confederate Navy gunboat that was pulled out of the Neuse River 51 years ago, is getting a new home in downtown Kinston. The boat’s wooden remains were moved earlier last year from a shed in a flood-prone park near the river to a climate-controlled museum on Queen Street. The state-run museum is scheduled to be finished by fall, but temporary exhibits should open as early as February. Read more and view photo [here](#).

Beach Carolina magazine

[New Site Manager at Historic Stagville Embraces Diverse History](#)

Stephanie Hardy is the new site manager at Historic Stagville in Durham, and finds that the many stories to tell there — about American Indian history, African American history, women’s history, agricultural practices, or period craftsmanship — offer endless opportunities to engage the public. When she reflects on the Colonial and Civil War eras, both of which are interpreted at Stagville, she finds the history anything but dull. Read more and view site photo [here](#).